Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children

MEETING MINUTES September 16, 2014

APPROVED

Members Present:

Sgt. Mark Boody
Denise Busley
Dr. Johanna Buzolits
Deborah Carley
Kristen Clark
Jerry Dorsey, IV
Kathy Hagenian
Dr. Angie Kennedy
Thomas Knapp
Mary Lovik
Hon. Cheryl Matthews
Dorie Vasquez-Nolan
Carol Hackett Garagiola, Chair

Members absent:

Thomas Cottrell Pamela Fitzgerald Phyllis Van Order

DHS Staff Present:

Kelcey McArthur Danielle Marek

Guests:

Julie Welch – Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan

Welcome and Introductions

Chair C. Hackett Garagiola convened the third meeting of the Task Force on the Prevention of Sexual Abuse of Children, at the General Office Building – Conference Room B, 7150 Harris Dr. Dimondale, MI on September 16, 2014 at 9:00 am, welcoming and thanking members and DHS staff for their participation. Members and DHS staff introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Moved by J. Dorsey, IV to approve the September 16, 2014 meeting agenda. Seconded by M. Lovik. Motion carried.

Approval of September 16, 2014 Meeting Minutes

C. Hackett Garagiola offered an amendment to the minutes, replacing the reference to MI "Department" of Education with MI "Board" of Education.

Motion: Moved by J. Dorsey, IV to approve the September 16, 2014 meeting minutes, as amended. Seconded by C. Matthews. Motion carried.

Administrative Matters

C. Hackett Garagiola advised members that the Task Force webpage is expected to be operational within a few days following the 9.16.14 meeting, and a link to the webpage will be sent to Task Force members. Meeting minutes and meeting schedules will be posted on the webpage, in addition to general information about the Task Force and Task Force members.

Information Gathering Status and Updates

Members discussed the status of the information gathering functions of the Task Force. T. Knapp provided data from the National Children's Alliance, and K. McArthur provided data from DHS. Members discussed the significance of the data. Julie Welch from the Prosecuting Attorneys Association of Michigan [PAAM] discussed the information that is and is not accessible through PAAM that may be relevant to Task Force work, and offered the assistance of PAAM to the Task Force's information gathering functions. Members clarified members' individual roles in contacting various agencies and organizations for purposes of data gathering.

Members discussed the content of survey questions. J. Buzolits volunteered to develop the survey based upon Task Force member feedback, and to draft a survey process for member review and approval.

Members expressed a preference for handling the information gathering processes of the Task Force through a smaller group of Task Force members who will continue the work of data gathering, survey process management, and resource compilation outside of full Task Force meeting times, and will report progress back to the full Task Force. Members and DHS staff volunteering for the information gathering group include A. Kennedy, J. Buzolits, D. Carley, K. Hagenian, T. Knapp, K. McArthur, D. Marek, and C. Hackett Garagiola.

K. Hagenian provided information regarding process and options for public hearings. Members determined that given the time and resource constraints on the Task Force, public hearings are not feasible, and that information, commentary and testimony to the Task Force would be obtained through the data gathering, survey process and resource compilation operations of the Task Force.

Members discussed the status of attorney representation for DHS during child protective proceedings. Members discussed mandated reporter training and agreed to review the DHS power point regarding same prior to the 10.7.14 meeting.

School Policies

Members agreed to devote the 9.16.14 meeting to the mandates in MCL 722.632b and MCL 380.1505 regarding school policies.

2015 Meeting Dates

Members agreed to be prepared to set the 2015 meeting schedule during the 10.7.14 meeting.

Lunch

Members participated in a lunch at their own expense, using no public funds.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Thank you and next meeting

C. Hackett Garagiola thanked members for the thoughtful discussion that took place during the meeting. The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for:

Tuesday, October 7, 2014 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Grand Tower – Room 1A 235 S. Grand Ave. Lansing, MI 48933

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Carol Hackett Garagiola